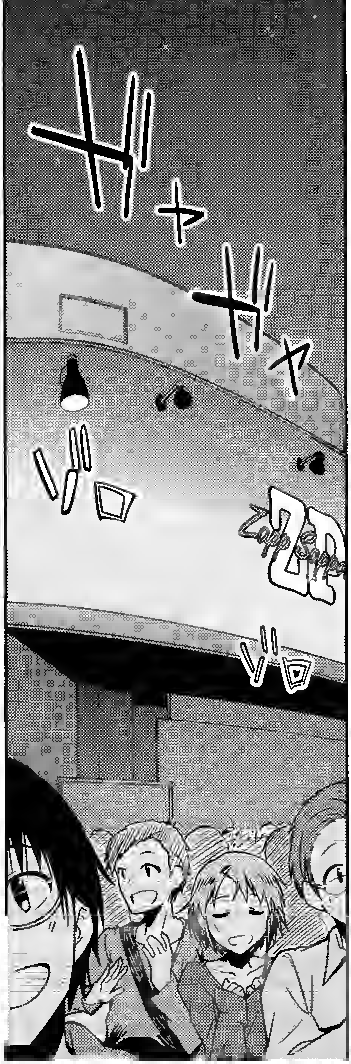

THE IDOLM@STER 2
アイドルマスター
The world is all one !!

祐佑 (ゆうゆう)
YUU YUU

原作／バンダイナムコゲームス
ORIGINAL WORK BY BANDAI NAMCO GAMES

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第18話「いっぱいいっぱい」

CHAPTER 18 MORE AND MORE

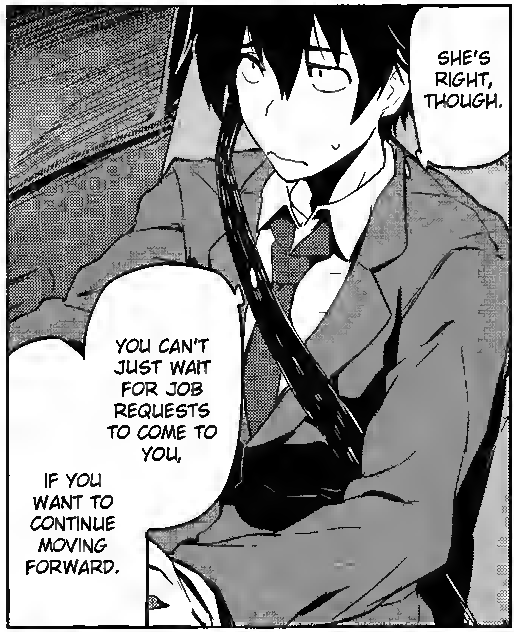
NOW'S NOT THE TIME TO TAKE A BREAK!
WE GOTTA PACK UP BEFORE HEADING BACK TO THE HOTEL!
I KNOW YOU GUYS ARE TIRED,
BUT WE'LL RUN THROUGH YOUR SCHEDULES AGAIN ON THE WAY.
COME ON, WE DON'T HAVE ANY TIME TO SPARE!
GET MOVING!
RITSUKO AND I WILL HANDLE THE TRANSPORT.
MEET US AT THE REAR EXIT ONCE YOU'RE ALL READY.

ALRIGHT, LET'S GO.
ARE THOSE RENTAL CARS?
DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE-
PRODUCER'S GONNA BE DRIVING ONE, SO...
WHO'S DRIVING?
WE CAN'T FIT ALL OF YOU INTO ONE CAR.
WHY DO WE HAVE TWO CARS?
秋月律子
WE'VE GOT TO RUN THROUGH OUR SCHEDULE, DON'T WE?
YOU'RE COMING WITH ME.
ALONG WITH THE REST OF RYUUGUU KOMACHI.
I'LL TAKE THAT CAR-
THERE'S NOTHING REASSURING ABOUT THAT PLEASED EXPRESSION OF YOURS!
DON'T WORRY, IT'LL BE FINE!
I KNEW THIS WOULD COME IN HANDY SOME-DAY!

BIG LIVES LIKE THESE ARE THE BEST, AREN'T THEY?
YEAH, THEY'RE AMAZING!
ALL OUR FANS WERE CHEERING SO LOUDLY!
BUT IT'S REALLY TIRING, NANO...
WEREN'T YOU REALLY FIRED UP ABOUT IT, MIKI?
"FORGOT ABOUT IT ALREADY
YOUR AD-LIB WAS PRETTY GOOD!
IT'S PRETTY EASY TO GAIN FANS
WHEN YOU HAVE SO MANY UNITS AND APPEALS IN A LIVE.
IF WE CAN KEEP THIS UP,
THE END RESULT IS GOING TO BE FANTASTIC.

WHO'S GOT AN IA AWARDS NOMINATION SO FAR?
RYUUGUU KOMACHI ALREADY GOT ONE.
WE'RE HOPING SPROUT WILL GET THEIRS SOONER OR LATER.
IAノミネート予想圏内
EH? WHAT ABOUT MIKI AND THE OTHERS?
IT'LL DEFINITELY BE EASIER FOR YOU GUYS,
SINCE YOU'LL ALL GAIN A LOT OF FANS THROUGH THIS TOUR.
BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO KEEP AT IT IF YOU WANT TO CATCH UP.
WELL, THAT REALLY DEPENDS ON YOUR ACTIVITIES AFTER THIS.
.....
WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT IT,
IT'S KIND OF AMAZING THAT EVERYONE HAS A CHANCE TO GET NOMINATED.
WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS, "AIM FOR THE IA AWARDS, EVERYONE!", ISN'T IT?
WELL, I'D SAY EVERYONE HAS A CHANCE.

Wa.
BY THE "DEPENDS ON YOUR ACTIVITIES" PART?
DON'T TELL ME YOU FEEL CHEATED
YOU DON'T SEEM VERY IMPRESSED, MIKIMIKI.


SHE'S RIGHT, THOUGH.
YOU CAN'T JUST WAIT FOR JOB REQUESTS TO COME TO YOU,
IF YOU WANT TO CONTINUE MOVING FORWARD.

MHM.

WHAT MIKI'S DOING NOW ISN'T ENOUGH AT ALL.
AND MIKI DOESN'T HAVE A PRODUCER HELPING HER, EITHER.

IT'S ALRIGHT, MIKI!
!
ONCE WE FINISH THIS TOUR, I'M SURE WE'LL GET BIGGER AND BETTER JOBS!
I MEAN, THE SAME THING HAPPENED TO US, YOU KNOW?
C'MON, THIS TOUR'S REALLY FUN, ISN'T IT?
GETTING A CHANCE FOR A NOMINATION'S JUST A BONUS!
MM, YOU'RE RIGHT NANO
YOU MEAN, AFTER THAT COMBINED LIVE BACK THEN?
YEAH!
AIN'T THAT RIGHT, NII-CHAN?
NOW, I'LL GO THROUGH THE SCHEDULE WITH YOU GUYS AGAIN, OKAY?
THAT'S RIGHT.
OKAY!
ハァ

HEY, YUKIHO...
WE'RE REALLY LUCKY TO HAVE A PRODUCER, AREN'T WE?
ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, IT'S PRETTY OBVIOUS, ISN'T IT?
I MEAN, IF WE DIDN'T HAVE A PRODUCER...
NE-
NEVER-MIND! WHERE'S HARUKA, ANYWAY?
I THINK SHE'S HELPING OUT WITH THE LUGGAGE.
THAT'S NOT-
.....
ゴロ..
HIBIKI?

HARUKA?
WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?
PRO-DUCER!
HM... RITSUKO AND THE OTHERS ARE LATE.
I KNOW. ARE THEY *ALRIGHT?
WELL, YEAH.
I WAS JUST THINKING OF THE OTHERS HAVING TO WORK WITHOUT A PRODUCER.
KEEPING YOUR WORRIES TO YOURSELF AGAIN?
COME ON NOW.
YOU KNOW THAT DOESN'T ANSWER MY QUESTION.
UGH.
KIKUCHI AND HOSHII HAVE THE SAME COMPLAINTS.
WHENEVER I THINK ABOUT THE ADVANTAGES OF HAVING A PRODUCER,
I END UP FEELING MORE THAN A LITTLE JEALOUS
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO BALANCE FOCUSSING ON SPROUT
AND KEEPING EVERYONE SATISFIED AT THE SAME TIME.
I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT THAT.

I CAN'T STAND BY AND JUST IGNORE IT,
AND, THAT'S WHY,
YOU WANT TO HELP EVERY-ONE, RIGHT?
IF YOU JUST LEAVE THEM ALONE AFTER THIS LIVE TOUR IS OVER,
IT FEELS LIKE YOU'RE JUST USING THEM, DOESN'T IT?
THAT'S WHY YOU WANT TO DO WHATEVER YOU CAN TO HELP.
BUT THE WORKLOAD WOULD BE TOO MUCH,
AND YOU'RE BUSY WITH OUR UNIT'S ACTIVI-TIES, TOO,
SO, YEAH, THAT'S A PROBLEM...
うむ…
むむ…
I SUPPOSE IT'S BECAUSE WE'RE THINKING ABOUT THE SAME THINGS.
EVERYONE SAYS THAT
YOU AND I ARE REALLY ALIKE, SO, YOU KNOW...
I GET WHAT YOU MEAN.
そう…
HOW DID YOU
MANAGE TO READ MY MIND?

I WANT TO GIVE YOU THREE PRIORITY,
BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT I SHOULD DO,
BUT ABANDONING THE OTHERS IS THE WORST THING I COULD DO.
DOUBLY SO SINCE YOU'RE THINKING THE SAME THING.
AS YOU SAY, IT'S BUGGING ME.
NOW THAT I'VE JOINED IN,
I GUESS IT'S EVEN HARDER TO DECIDE, HUH.
OH, HOW SWEET OF YOU TWO...
SERIOUS-LY!
DIDN'T WE GO THROUGH THIS BEFORE?
IT'S NOT LIKE EVERY-ONE HAS A PROBLEM WITH THAT!
I KNOW, I KNOW!
BUT I CAN'T GET IT OUT OF MY HEAD!

YEAH, IT MIGHT NOT BE THAT IMPORTANT,
HARUKA AND I BOTH KNOW THAT.
BUT-
HAVING OR NOT HAVING A PRODUCER
DOESN'T CHANGE YOUR LUCK, YOUR ABILITY, OR EVEN THE DECISIONS YOU MAKE.
KNOWING THAT, WOULD YOU RATHER JUST STAND ASIDE AND WATCH,
SAYING, "NOT MY PROBLEM",
AND HANGING THEM OUT TO DRY?
FOR THE OTHERS, WHO MADE IT SO FAR ON THEIR OWN,
BY WORKING TOGETHER, THEY ACTUALLY STAND A CHANCE.
HAVING SOMEONE PRODUCE THEM AT THIS CRUCIAL TIME MAY BE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SUCCESS AND FAILURE.

THAT'S...
SEE? YOU GET IT NOW,
DON'T YOU, HIBIKI?
HARUKA, DID YOU REALLY THINK THAT FAR ABOUT IT?
UH, NO, I DIDN'T...
EHE.
I ONLY GOT AS FAR AS HIS FEELINGS ABOUT IT...
HARUKA...
EHE HE HE
OH? WHAT'S WITH THAT "EHE"?
YOU KNOW, FOR YOU THREE,
YOUR BIGGEST APPEALS ARE THOSE CAREFREE SMILES YOU HAVE.
OKAY, CONTINUING WITH THE ACTUAL TOPIC...
WH, IT'S THIS ALL OF A SUDDEN?
ARE YOU PRAISING US?

I WANT TO MAKE SURE YOUR SMILES AREN'T AFFECTED.
AND I DON'T KNOW HOW THAT WILL AFFECT EVERYONE'S MOOD.
THERE'S A CHANCE THAT NOBODY WILL GET A NOMINATION.
EVEN IF WE DO EVERYTHING WE CAN,
AND, ALSO...
WELL, JUST KEEP ON DOING YOUR ACTIVITIES AS YOU ALWAYS HAVE.
WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU WANT US TO DO?
UH, PRODUCER?
THIS ONE TIME?
COULD I BREAK THAT PROMISE (OVERWORK MYSELF),
WHAT? ISN'T THIS THE POINT WHERE YOU GUYS GIVE ME THE OKAY!?
AN INSTANT REPLY!?
NO.

I WON'T COLLAPSE, I SWEAR!
AND YOU'RE GOING TO OVERWORK YOURSELF BECAUSE OF THAT?
I'M JUST GOING TO HELP EVERYONE WITH THEIR ACTIVITES, THAT'S ALL!
IT'S ONLY GONNA BE FOR A LITTLE WHILE!
I'M TRYING TO IMPROVE EVERYONE'S CHANCES!
THERE'S NO PROBLEM, IS THERE!?
I UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELINGS, BUT...
IT'S NOT GOING TO HELP MUCH, IS IT?
DIDN'T I SAY I'M DOING THIS SO THAT YOU GUYS DON'T FEEL IT'S UNFAIR TO THE OTHERS!?
AND WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "CHEATER"!?
I'M JUST GOING TO HELP PRODUCE THEM FOR A LITTLE WHILE!
CHEATER.
IS IT REALLY TOO MUCH?
LET ME BE A LITTLE SELFISH HERE.
HONESTLY,
I FEEL LIKE I NEED TO REPAY THEM FOR WHAT THEY'VE DONE TO HELP US.

?
OY-
A-
OUCH!
スタ
スタ
スタ
!?
ガシ
GOOD NIGHT!
DON'T OVERDO IT, OKAY?
JUST THIS ONCE!
I KNOW I'M DOING SOMETHING REALLY NAIVE,
GOOD NIGHT...
HAHA.
BUT NOT-HELPING-THE-OTHERS-WOULD-TURN US INTO ANOTHER 961 PRO.
EVEN IF THIS DOESN'T WORK OUT, I WANT TO DO EVERYTHING I CAN, TO AVOID HAVING ANY REGRETS.

WE'RE FINALLY HERE...
IT'S ALREADY PAST MIDNIGHT...
THAT WAS THE WORST!
I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT!
WE GOT HERE IN ONE PIECE, DIDN'T WE?
UH, THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK.
AHAHA.
IT DEFINITELY WAS HARD, ALRIGHT.
DID YOU EVEN HEAR WHAT I SAID!?
HER DRIVING IS TERRIBLE!
I COULDN'T SETTLE DOWN AT ALL BECAUSE IT WAS THAT BAD!
THE MOMENT WE LOST SIGHT OF YOUR CAR, SHE GOT LOST! EVEN THOUGH I WAS GIVING HER DIRECTIONS!
THAT MUST HAVE BEEN HARD TO DEAL WITH...
YES, I SEE.
YEAH, I GET IT.
YOU SHOULD GET SOME REST WHILE YOU CAN.. OKAY?
IF I CAN, YOU MEAN.

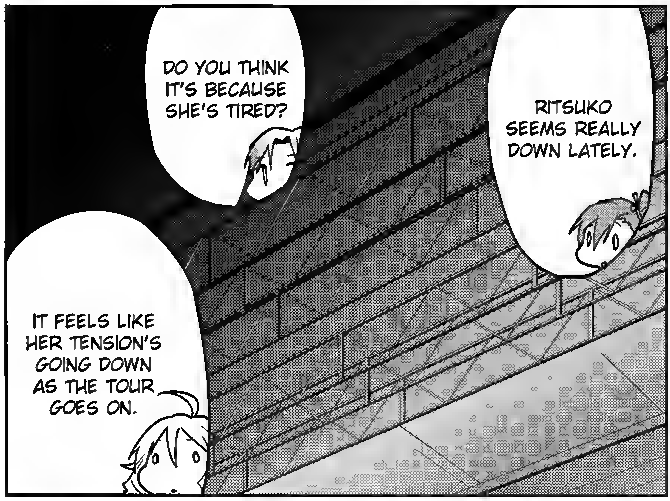
キャー
キャー
TURN HERE
I CAN'T TALK RIGHT NOW!
UM, WHAT ABOUT OUR SCHED-ULE?
WE HAVEN'T GONE THROUGH OUR SCHEDULE YET.
YEAH. WE WERE SUPPOSED TO DO THAT ON THE WAY HERE, BUT...
OH, RIGHT.
LET'S GET IT OVER WITH.
I LEFT MY NOTEBOOK
IN THE CONTROL ROOM BACK THERE. SORRY...
?
HUH?
WHAT'S WRONG?
GET A GRIP! EVERYONE'S TIRED OUT ALR-
RYUUGUU KOMACHI HAS A BROADCAST RECORDING.
KACHOU FUUGETSU IS GOING FOR A PHOTO-SHOOT.
KIKUCHI WILL BE JOINING ONE-TWO→ TAILS FOR LESSONS.
KACHOU FUUGETSU'S TAKING A FLIGHT TO THE LOCA-TION,
AND THE CHECK-IN TIMING SHOULD BE-

AND THAT'S ALL.
GO GET SOME REST, EVERYONE.
NOT BAD, NII-CHAN!
HOW'D YOU REMEMBER EVERYONE'S SCHEDULES?
I PUT IT TOGETHER IN THE FIRST PLACE, YOU KNOW?
THAT'S WHY, UH...
AND SO WHAT?
THAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE *HER* JOB, ISN'T IT?
!

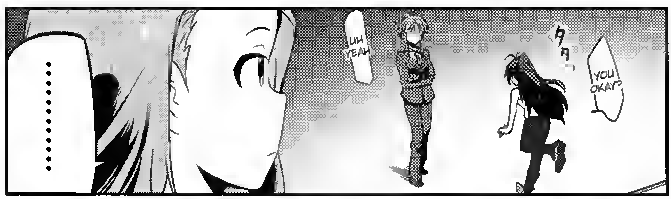
I, IORI...
OY, IORI, YOU'RE ALWAYS-
UH, SORRY ABOUT THAT.
I DIDN'T EXPECT HER REACTION TO BE SO...
NAH, IT'S FINE.
THANKS FOR THE HELP.
UM, YOU KNOW,
THAT KIND OF THING HAPPENS TO EVERY-ONE-
YEAH, I KNOW THAT. IT'S ALRIGHT.
I'LL HEAD BACK AND GRAB MY NOTEBOOK.
YOU SHOULD GET SOME REST, TOO.
SEE YOU LATER.
I'M A LITTLE WORRIED.
WELL, SHE SHOULD BE ABLE TO HANDLE IT...

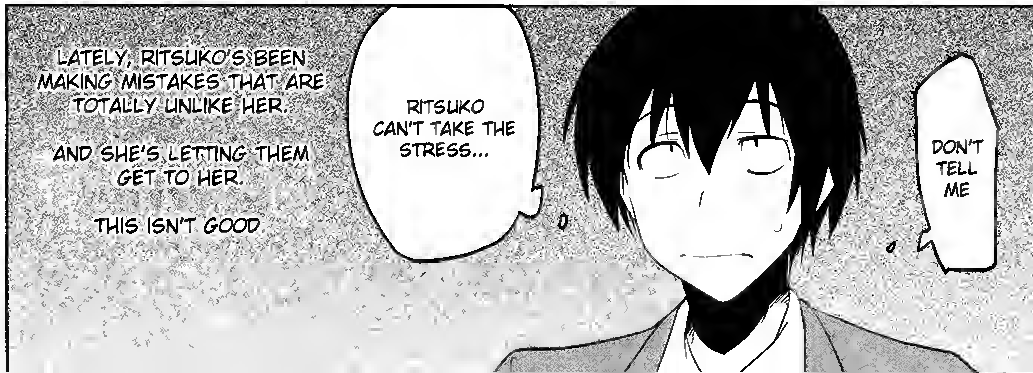
THE HARDEST PART ABOUT THIS LIVE TOUR
WAS THE LONG-DISTANCE TRAVELLING BETWEEN LOCATIONS, AND THE TIGHT SCHEDULE.
AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, BETWEEN STOPS,
I TRIED TO HELP THE OTHER IDOLS WITH THEIR ACTIVITIES,
AND KEEP THEIR SPIRITS FLYING HIGH.
FUKUOKA CONCERT
WITH EVERYONE AS MOTIVATED AS THEY WERE,
THE LIVES TO COME AFTERWARD WOULD BE SPECTACULAR.
THE TOUR SEEMED TO BE GOING SMOOTHLY.
BUT-
NAGOYA CONCERT

THE NIGHT BEFORE THE OSAKA CONCERT
RITSUKO?
OY, RITSUKO!
CAN YOU HEAR ME?
HUH? OH, YES! WHAT'S THE MATTER?


DO YOU THINK IT'S BECAUSE SHE'S TIRED?
RITSUKO SEEMS REALLY DOWN LATELY.
IT FEELS LIKE HER TENSION'S GOING DOWN AS THE TOUR GOES ON.

ABOUT THE PART WE JUST DID-
WEREN'T YOU GOING TO GIVE US SOME INPUT?
OH, I ALMOST FORGOT. SORRY, LET'S SEE...


UM, TEAM...
YOU OKAY?
.....


LATELY, RITSUKO'S BEEN MAKING MISTAKES THAT ARE TOTALLY UNLIKE HER.
AND SHE'S LETTING THEM GET TO HER.
THIS ISN'T GOOD.
RITSUKO CAN'T TAKE THE STRESS...
DON'T TELL ME

HOLD UP, RITSUKO!
IORI...
GET A GRIP ALREADY!
WHAT HAPPENED TO ALL YOUR NAGGING?
NOW'S NOT THE TIME TO BE ACTING SO SOFT!
WHAT, DID YOU LOSE YOUR DRIVE TO BE A PRODUCER OR SOMETHING?
!

ﾊﾚｯ…
JUST WHEN ARE YOU... GOING TO...
HM, HMPH!
IF YOU GET WHAT I'M SAYING,
PRO-DUCER,
I'LL LEAVE THE REST TO YOU FOR TODAY.
HUH? WAIT!
SORRY, BUT IT SURE FEELS THAT WAY.
RITSU-KO?
スタ
スタ
SORRY.
FOR BEING USE-LESS.
SAY SOMETHING, AT LEAST...
WHA...
HOLD UP-
WAIT, WHERE ARE YOU-
ﾊｰ
……